MOOSECALLS

Global Financial News & Analysis
OCT.30.2026 through NOV.08.2026

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: OCT.30.2026

This weekly global Investment newsletter tracks investment strategy performance, including buy-and-hold and market timing using ETFs as proxies for indices.

GLOBAL MARKETS: WEEK'S ACTION— MIXED-Risk (2)

THIS WEEK: 2nd MIXED-Risk week in a row.
US Stocks MIXED, Foreign Stocks MIXED, Bonds UP and Gold DOWN

Bond Rally & Equity Rotation Continue

Fed week came and went without a monetary policy change, but odds still favor a rate hike in six weeks. US Long T-bonds (+0.4%) rallied for a fourth week aided by WTI crude prices pushing to $104 and Brent crude to $118 as December global rate hike expectations persist. The 10-yr yield dropped to 4.93%, and the cash yield slipped to 3.97%, keeping the 3m-10y yield curve at 96 basis points. US equity investors have been rotating out of the mega-cap high-flyers and into small value for a couple of weeks. For a second week, small caps (+1.3%) improved while large-caps (-0.6%) retreated. Among S&P strategies Value, High Dividend, Low Volatility and Equal Value have replaced Momentum and Growth as top choices. The Dollar (+0.1%) again rose fractionally, contributing to weakness in gold (-3.0%)., commodities (-1.4%) and the oil complex (-0.4%). Offshore, stocks were mixed but generally lower. Apart from a rebound in Europe (+1.4%), Latin American equities (-14.8%) tanked, Japan (-1.3%) fell, and Asia-Pacific (-0.2%) pulled back. The models are on hold this week pending stop-loss readings on SPY.

GLOBAL OUTLOOK POSITIVE (3 of 4, UP this week). The Baltic Dry Index is down on the quarter, but oil and copper prices and 10Y Treasury yield are higher, making the outlook positive as of 10/30/26.

US INFLATION: September PCE inflation slightly warmer. WTI oil prices up to $104, Brent to $118. Global inflation per the Fed Check (84) still warrants tightening.

US ECONOMY: Q3 GDP, Optimism, Durable Orders & Spending Strong, New Home Sales Weaker**.** Yield curve positive and steady this week. Recession chances a year out shrinking and minimal. Money market system healthy per SOFR. Above average US growth prospects. GDP Now estimate (Q4) at 3.2% as of 10/29.

FEDERAL RESERVE: Meeting this week, no policy change. 1st rate hike since 12/25 rate cut five weeks ago. Fed Check (84) remains hawkish. The Fed's balance sheet currently stands at $6.74 trillion, with the Fed Funds Rate at 3.75-4.00%. t At least one more Fed rate HIKE (73%) is likely by December.

INVESTMENT STRATEGIES: There are no model switches this week.

GLOBAL OUTLOOK: POSITIVE (3 of 4)

Indications are positive for the global economy.

An international shipping measure and proxy for current global trade, **the Baltic Dry Index is at 2714 this week, up from 2660 last week and down 3% after 13 weeks, a negative** signal. (After opening 2026 at 1882, BDI is still well below its 2010 peak @4640.)

Meanwhile, another proxy for world activity, **WTI oil price is at $104.12 this week, up 23% in the latest quarter, a positive** economic signal. (Oil remains below its 2022 peak ($130), but well above the 2020 Covid low ($10).)

Our proxy for global construction, **copper is $6.48 this week, and up 0% this quarter, a positive** signal.

Domestically, the **10Y US bond yield is at 4.93% this week, down 18 basis-points over the past 13 weeks, and a positive** bet on the largest world economy.

REGIONAL RANKING: US Large-caps (SPY) on Top

Regional Rankings through NOV.08.2026

THIS WEEK: 2nd MIXED-Risk week in a row.
US Stocks MIXED, Foreign Stocks MIXED, Bonds UP and Gold DOWN

The best regional asset we monitor is US Large-caps (SPY). Positives: CI% is max. Technical strength is max and bullish (>60), and PMO is positive (>0). Negatives: PMO is weak and deteriorating. RSI is bearish (<50). SPY also touched a 20-day low (stop-loss) intraday this week for a second straight Friday, this time closing the week below it.

BEST ALTERNATIVE: The only other choices with a positive CI and PMO, and a TS>50 is cash. (As predicted, highly volatile Latin America (ILF) tanked this week overnight.) Long bonds have made a run the past two weeks off an oversold bottom and PMO is positive and improving, but CI and TS suggest it is a bit early. Cash is the best alternative for now.

** Working off a stop-loss. Assets are ranked by CI, the "confidence index". It combines the relative strength (rank), and technical strength (TS). The Trend is based on the TS reading. **Working off a buy-stop.*

	CI%	FUND	TS+	READ	RSI	PMO	+/-	condition
1	**100%**	**US Large-caps (SPY)**	**70%**	**bullish**	40.4	**0.09**	**positive**	deteriorating
2	71%	Japan (EWJ)	42%	neutral	34.4	-0.57	negative	deteriorating
3	61%	Asia Pacific ex-Japan (AAXJ)	22%	bearish	35.8	-1.99	negative	deteriorating
4	56%	US Small-caps (IWM)	31%	bearish	49.5	-0.84	negative	improving
5	41%	Latin America (ILF)	40%	bearish	28.0	-0.72	negative	deteriorating
6	18%	Short US Income (SGOV)	93%	very bullish	81.8	0.14	positive	deteriorating
7	11%	Europe (IEV)	32%	bearish	51.2	-0.56	negative	improving
8	-103%	Very Long US Bonds (EDV)	45%	neutral	61.6	**0.50**	**positive**	**improving**
9	-174%	Gold Bullion (GLD)	6%	very bearish	30.3	-1.79	negative	deteriorating
		US Dollar	98%	very bullish	56.7	0.61	positive	deteriorating
		Commodities	108%	very bullish	56.8	1.75	positive	deteriorating
		US Oil	128%	very bullish	67.0	4.88	positive	improving
		Ryan/CRB	84%	HIKE RATES				
		Volatility	18.7	normal				

Japanese stocks are the best performing regional choice YTD and over 26-weeks, but just barely. US Large-caps are best over 13 and 39-weeks and 2nd best over 26 weeks, though recent performance has lagged ahead of the Fed meeting last week and the elections this week. US large-caps are the last best hope for investors, but price momentum is on the verge of turning negative as there is both fear and uncertainty over next Tuesday's electoral outcomes.

YTD	FUND	10/30	10/23	13wk	26wk	39wk	52wk	3Y
15.1%	**Japan (EWJ)**	-1.3%	-0.8%	-0.4%	**4.9%**	9.0%	**20.9%**	**58.8%**
14.0%	Asia Pacific ex-Japan (AAXJ)	-0.2%	-1.6%	-3.0%	-7.4%	6.3%	15.3%	45.7%
13.5%	US Small-caps (IWM)	1.3%	2.0%	1.0%	-0.5%	8.3%	14.6%	29.8%
10.8%	US Large-caps (SPY)	-0.6%	-0.4%	**5.7%**	**3.8%**	**10.1%**	12.0%	33.5%
5.5%	Latin America (ILF)	-14.8%	0.4%	-10.8%	-10.0%	-8.0%	16.0%	46.0%
4.6%	Europe (IEV)	**1.4%**	-1.2%	-3.9%	1.7%	1.8%	13.6%	38.1%
0.3%	Short US Income (SGOV)	0.1%	0.1%	1.9%	1.8%	2.8%	3.7%	8.4%
-8.8%	Very Long US Bonds (EDV)	0.4%	**2.5%**	-3.5%	-4.2%	-5.0%	-9.7%	-10.7%
-10.2%	Gold Bullion (GLD)	-3.0%	-4.0%	-16.0%	-17.6%	-20.0%	-3.4%	40.7%

Global Ranking through NOV.08.2026

REGIONAL RANK & SUMMARY

THIS WEEK: 2nd MIXED-Risk week in a row.
US Stocks MIXED, Foreign Stocks MIXED, Bonds UP and Gold DOWN

#1 US LARGE-CAPS Touch 2nd Stop-loss--
SPY fell 0.6% this week, after losing 0.4% last week. That left it bullish and ranked #1 globally and more attractive than cash. The index is up 5.7% for the quarter (13 weeks), and up 12.0% for the year (52 weeks).

#2 JAPAN Gaps Lower--
EWJ fell 1.3% this week, after losing 0.8% last week. That left it neutral and ranked #2 globally and more attractive than cash. The index is down 0.4% for the quarter (13 weeks), but up 20.9% for the year (52 weeks).

#3 ASIA-PACIFIC Retests 200-day & Fails, 2.0--
AAXJ fell 0.2% this week, after losing 1.6% last week. That left it bearish and ranked #3 globally and more attractive than cash. The index is down 3.0% for the quarter (13 weeks), but up 15.3% for the year (52 weeks).

#4 US SMALL-CAPs Test Resistance--
IWM rose 1.3% this week, after gaining 2.0% last week. That left it bearish and ranked #4 globally and more attractive than cash. The index is up 1.0% for the quarter (13 weeks), and up 14.6% for the year (52 weeks).

#5 LATIN AMERICA Suffers Brazil's Choice--
ILF fell 14.8% this week, after gaining 0.4% last week. That left it bearish and ranked #5 globally and more attractive than cash. The index is down 10.8% for the quarter (13 weeks), but up 16.0% for the year (52 weeks).

#6 Cash Falls-- The 3-month yield fell 4 basis points to 4.03%. The 10-year dipped 11 to 4.99% flattening the yield curve to 96 basis points. Cash is currently ranked #5 globally. The 3-month T-bill is up 0.9% for the quarter and up 3.7% for the year (52wks). Total return over six months is 1.8%.

#7 EUROPE Tests Resistance--
IEV rose 1.4% this week, after losing 1.2% last week. That left it bearish and ranked #7 globally and less attractive than cash. The index is down 3.9% for the quarter (13 weeks), but up 13.6% for the year (52 weeks).

#8 US LONG T-BONDS Hover Near Latest Buy-Stop--
EDV rose 0.4% this week, after gaining 2.5% last week. That left it neutral, ranked #8 globally and with a less attractive total return than cash over six months. Long bonds are down 3.5% for the quarter (13 weeks) and down 9.7% for the year (52 weeks) as yields have risen.

#9 GOLD Sinks to New 52-week Low--
GLD fell 3.0% this week, after losing 4.0% last week. That left it very bearish and ranked #9 globally and less attractive than cash. The index is down 16.0% for the quarter (13 weeks), and down 3.4% for the year (52 weeks).

COMMODITIES Down Fractionally--
A very bullish CRB fell 1.4% this week after gaining 1.1% last week. That leaves commodity prices up 15.9% for the quarter (13 weeks), and up 48.0% for the year (52 weeks).

OIL Edges Higher--
Meanwhile, the broader oil complex (USO) fell 0.4% this week, following last week's gain of 4.8% and currently very bullish. That leaves US oil prices up 35.3% for the quarter (13 weeks), and up 135.1% for the year (52 weeks).

US DOLLAR Still Steady Below Latest High--
UUP rose 0.1% this week, after gaining 0.1% last week. It is currently very bullish—up 2.4% for the quarter (13 weeks), and up 3.5% in the last year (52 weeks). At $29.00, UUP is above its short-term (50-day) average and above its intermediate-term (200-day) average.

US ECONOMY: OCT.30.2026

OVERALL: *Q3 GDP, Optimism, Durable Orders & Spending Strong, New Home Sales Weaker*

PRODUCTION: Global Activity Expanding

(+) 10/24 WEEKLY EIA Crude Oil Inventory (-1.892M) DRAW shrinks as WTIC oil prices rise to $104
(+) SEP Industrial Production (+0.7%) strong-- ABOVE prior and consensus.
(+) SEP Capacity Utilization (76.9) UP and ABOVE prior and expectations.
(+) OCT S&P Global US Manufacturing PMI – (56.0) expanding, ABOVE previous.
(-) OCT S&P Global US Services PMI – (57.9) expanding, BELOW previous
(-) SEP ISM Manufacturing Index (54.5) expanding, BELOW prior and consensus.
(-) SEP ISM Services Index (54.9) expanding, BELOW prior and consensus.

CONSTRUCTION: New Home Sales Weaker

(-) SEP Housing Starts (1221K) BELOW consensus and previous.
(-) SEP Building Permits (11400K) BELOW prior and consensus.
(+) SEP Existing Home Sales (3.99M) up from previous and consensus.
(-) SEP New Home Sales (676K) DOWN from prior but beat forecasts.
(+) AUG Construction Spending (+0.9%) ABOVE prior and expectations.

INFLATION: SEP PCE Prices Slightly Warmer

(-) SEP CPI (+0.6%) warmer than prior (+3.7% y-o-y)
(-) SEP Core CPI (+0.3%) in line with prior (+2.6% y-o-y)
(-) SEP PPI (+1.3%) warmer than prior (+6.3% y-o-y)
(-) SEP Core PPI (+0.7%) warmer than prior (+5.0% y-o-y)
(-) SEP Import Prices (+1.1%) hot monthly and (+8.1%) year-on-year.
(-) SEP Export Prices (+2.2%) hot monthly and (+11.6%) year-on-year.
(-) SEP PCE Prices (+0.5%) in line with consensus warmer than prior (1yr 3.6% up.)
(-) SEP PCE Prices – Core (+0.3%) in line with consensus and prior (1yr 3.1% up.)

JOBS: Jobless Claims Remain Low

(+) Weekly initial Claims (194K) DOWN from prior and BELOW consensus.
(-) Weekly Continuing Claims (1701K) BELOW prior week.
(+) SEP ADP Private Payrolls (90K) UP more than expected from previous.
(-) SEP Nonfarm Payrolls (+29K) well BELOW previous and consensus.
(-) SEP Unemployment rate (+4.2%) ticked higher than prior and consensus.
(-) SEP Average Hourly Earnings (+0.1%) WEAKER than consensus and prior.
(+) SEP Average workweek (34.4) unchanged, better than expected.
(-) AUG JOLTS Job openings (7.08M) BELOW consensus and prior revised higher.
(+) AUG Challenger Job Cuts (52.9K) UP from JUL but DOWN from a year ago. Lowest AUG since ’22.

CONSUMPTION: Optimism Ups Durable Orders & Spending

(+) OCT Consumer Confidence (91.7) UP from prior and beating consensus.
(+) SEP Durable Orders strong (+1.8%) BEAT prior and consensus.
(+) SEP Personal Income (+0.2%), BELOW consensus and prior.
(-) SEP Personal Spending (+0.5%) ABOVE forecasts BELOW previous.
(+) OCT Michigan Consumer Sentiment (48.0) pessimistic but ABOVE preliminary and consensus.
(+) JUL NFIB Small Business Optimism (99.8) strong and ABOVE prior (97.4).
(+) SEP Retail Sales (+0.8%) ABOVE consensus but below prior.
(-) SEP Trade Deficit (-$134.9) WORSE than prior and consensus.
(+) SEP Federal Budget (-$26.9) deficit less than August

GDP & RELATED DATA: Q3 GDP Strong, Deflator Cool

(+) SEP Leading Economic Index (0.0%) BEAT consensus and prior.
(+) Q3 GDP – Prelim (+3.4%) UP from previous and consensus.
(+) Q3 GDP Deflator – Prelim (+2.2%) cooler than previous and forecasts.
(+) Q3 Employment Cost Index (+0.8%) cooler than consensus and previous.
(+) Q2 Productivity – (1.4%) revised in line with prior and consensus. Up more than labor costs.
(+) Q2 Unit Labor Costs – revised (+1.2%) a tick lower than previous and consensus. Cooler than inflation.
(-) Q2 Current Account Balance (-$246.0B) deficit greater than previous quarter and consensus forecast.

RECESSION THREAT: MINIMAL, FALLING

US recession chances one year out: 12.76% (SEP 2027) per NY Fed. The Fed model's chance of recession has been below 30% (the threshold signaling a recession one year out) and falling since 2025. It reached a recent low of 15 in MAY 2026. The risk of recession was the highest in 40 years in May 2024, but it was avoided amid three years of massive Federal deficit spending and historic data falsification at the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

ATLANTA FED: US Q4 GDP NOW at 3.2%

Atlanta Fed Current GDP Model (10/29/2026): Q4 Annualized 3.2% (Last week: Q3 Annualized +3.5%)

US ECONOMY: FEDERAL RESERVE
FED BALANCE SHEET ($6.74T); FFR @ (3.75-4.00%)

Federal Reserve: week of OCT.30.2026

Currently, **the Fed's balance sheet is down to $6.745 trillion (-0.007T)** in the latest week 10/30/26. **The Fed Funds Rate was raised 25 BPS to 3.75-4.00%** at the SEP16 FOMC meeting. It was the first time rates have changed since the Fed cut in DEC 2025. There was no change at the most recent FOMC meeting (10/28), but **the odds of at least one more rate hike by year-end are still 73%.**

The next FOMC meeting is December 28. The new chairman since May 22, Kevin Warsh, chaired his first FOMC meeting June 17. There has been a sense that supply-side inflation pressures brought on by the war with Iran would eventually force two rate hikes by year-end. **After the September hike, Consensus has it coming at the December meeting.**

The Fed Check at 84% turned hawkish as of 1/30/2026 (tighter monetary policy needed to combat global inflation pressures). **The US 2-Year yield at 4.60%, however, is now 73 bps higher than the Fed overnight rate (3.875%), implying near-term US domestic conditions make another Fed rate hike increasingly likely.**

The 3m–10y yield curve maintained a slope of 96 bps this week, as the 10-year US Treasury yield fell to 4.93% and the 3-month cash yield fell to 3.97%. **Intermediate term the curve is positive but flattening. That suggests a strong economy that's weakening**. The 30d–10y median yield of 4.45% is above its 200-day average of 4.13%. **A rising median yield and a positive yield curve are both bullish for stocks.**

3-month SOFR yield is 3.94%, while the 3-month T-bill is 3.97%. That puts the SOFR/T-bill (SOF-T) spread at -3 basis points, below its 200-day average of -6.1 basis points. **A widening SOF-T spread reflects tighter repo funding or unusually strong demand for 3-month Treasury bills.**

FED CHECK: TIGHTER INDICATED (-1)
RATE POSTURE: TIGHTENING (-1)
BALANCE SHEET: STEADY (0)
FED SPEAK: HAWKISH (-1)
FED OVERALL: HAWKISH (-3)

Latest FOMC Assessment (2026.10.28) The Federal Open Market Committee approved the following statement for release by a 10 – 2 vote: The Committee decided to maintain the target range for the federal funds rate at 3-3/4 to 4 percent, in support of the Federal Reserve's dual mandate. The Committee is continuing its policy of maintaining ample reserves in the banking system. Economic activity is expanding at a strong pace. While uncertainty remains elevated owing, in part, to geopolitical developments, domestic spending has been resilient. Productivity growth is strong, and capital investment is robust. Job gains have kept pace with the workforce, and the unemployment rate has changed little. Inflation remains elevated. The accumulation of more information will help the Committee determine the policy stance appropriate to ensure a timely return of inflation to the Committee's 2 percent goal. The Committee will deliver price stability. (Next Meeting: 12/09/2026)

US Currency Market:
US DOLLAR Still Steady Below Latest High

US Dollar: UUP rose 0.1% this week, after gaining 0.1% last week. It is currently very bullish—up 2.4% for the quarter (13 weeks), and up 3.5% in the last year (52 weeks). At $29.00, UUP is above its short-term (50-day) average and above its intermediate-term (200-day) average. Momentum in the greenback is positive but deteriorating. RSI14 @ 56.7 is neither overbought nor oversold. As for other major currencies vs the Dollar, the Australian $ (FXA) is bullish, and down 0.1% this week. The British Pound (FXB) is bullish, and up 0.2%. The Canadian Dollar (FXC) is bearish, and up 0.2%. The Euro Dollar (FXE) is very bearish, and down 0.2%. The Swiss Franc (FXF) is very bearish, and up 0.1%, and the Japanese Yen (FXY) is very bullish and down 0.4%.

The Dollar again remained steady this week. US bond yields kept the 10-year T-bond yield below 5% for the second week in in a row taking some of the pressure off the Dollar. With the US tariff regime, the Treasury's Yen bailout policy, and Treasury's bond buybacks still pushing the greenback higher, however, it is yet to be determined whether the buck is at the beginning of a new six-week cycle lower or just getting relief from recent over-bought highs. The Dollar's PMO remains positive but is deteriorating suggesting the latter, but its average directional change is well above average (39) after a strong up-move, offering the possibility of an equally strong mean reversion lower.

Carry-trade This Week

Moose guidance is based on US Dollar denominated ETF proxies. Investors seeking to maximize profits when investing in offshore securities may wish to incorporate a "carry-trade" currency strategy into the decision, (Basically, if a foreign currency is weakening (bearish) against the Dollar, using a Dollar-denominated ETF to invest in that country's assets will outperform using a hedged vehicle. If, however, the foreign currency is bullish vs. the Dollar, the Dollar-denominated investment will underperform. In the event of a weak Dollar there may be currency-hedged foreign equity ETFs available at least for Europe (HEDJ) and Japan (DXJ) that will outperform.

Description	**READ**	US $ investors in Foreign Assets
Australian $ (FXA)	bullish	US$ Investors underperform hedged
British Pound (FXB)	bullish	US$ Investors underperform hedged
Canadian Dollar (FXC)	bearish	US$ Investors outperform hedged
Euro Dollar (FXE)	very bearish	US$ Investors outperform hedged (IEV>HEDJ)
Swiss Franc (FXF)	very bearish	US$ investors outperform hedged
Japanese Yen FXY)	very bullish	US$ investors underperform hedged (EWJ<DXJ)
US Dollar	very bullish	

US Treasury Market:
#8 US LONG T-BONDS Hover Near Latest Buy-Stop

US Long Treasury Bonds: EDV rose 0.4% this week, after gaining 2.5% last week. That left it neutral, ranked #8 globally and with a less attractive total return than cash over six months. Long bonds are down 3.5% for the quarter (13 weeks) and down 9.7% for the year (52 weeks) as yields have risen. The US Treasury 10-year yield fell 6 ticks to 4.93% and the 3-month yield fell 6 ticks to 3.97%, with the yield curve flattening to 96 basis points. That reduces the odds of a recession in late 2027. At US $59.27, EDV is above its short-term (50-day) average and below its intermediate-term (200-day) average. Momentum (PMO) is positive and improving, and its 14-day RSI of 61.6 means EDV is neither overbought nor oversold. As for currency effects, a pricier Dollar this week makes Dollar-denominated assets more attractive. Over time, a bullish Dollar improves returns to Dollar investors in US assets.

A three-week rally off an oversold bottom stalled this week, just shy of EDV's most recent buy-stop. The 30-year yield slipped to 5.30% as the FOMC went on hold with rate hikes at its meeting this week while energy costs firmed (WTI back above $104). A second Fed rate hike in December is still expected (73%), but less so than last week (93%). The 10-year T-bond yield remains below 5% at 4.93% and the 3-month T-bill yield slipped below 4% to 3.97%. Rising energy costs, massive US fiscal deficits, and tax-induced public and private sector credit demand all continue to pressure interest rates. Treasury's plan to double its buybacks of long-term T-Bonds in order to ease pressure on long-term borrowing costs for the government, businesses, and consumers may be a short-term help but it is not a long-term solution. Sustainable lower long-term rates will require improvements in the fiscal outlook, inflation trajectory, or other structural factors rather than buybacks alone— and that probably includes another short-term rate hike.

ETF Breakdown: EDV-- A market value-weighted index of high-duration, zero-coupon 25-year US Treasury securities. **Countries:** US (100%). **Top Sectors:** Government (93%), Cash (4%), ETFs (2%), Energy minerals (1%).

US Equity Market:
#1 US LARGE-CAPS Touch 2nd Stop-loss

US Large-Cap Stocks: SPY fell 0.6% this week, after losing 0.4% last week. That left it bullish and ranked #1 globally and more attractive than cash. The index is up 5.7% for the quarter (13 weeks), and up 12.0% for the year (52 weeks). At $755.72, SPY is below its short-term (50-day) average and above its intermediate-term (200-day) average. Its momentum (PMO) is positive and deteriorating, and its 14-day RSI of 40.4 means SPY is neither overbought nor oversold. As for currency effects, a pricier Dollar this week makes Dollar-denominated assets more attractive. Over time, a bullish Dollar improves returns to Dollar investors in US assets.

After holding up all week, SPY gapped below its 50-day and triggered a second stop-loss on Friday. Like the prior Friday's stop-loss, it was not convincing sell signal. For one thing, Price Momentum, though deteriorating for three weeks remains positive. For another, the majority of S&P stocks are still bullish and average directional change for SPY is weak (ADX<15). The growth and momentum mega-caps dominated by tech are trending lower. The Value, High Dividend, Low Volatility, and Equal Weight segments are actually bullish and pressing toward new highs. US large caps still face the same headwind they've faced all year—fear of "higher for longer" interest rates, thanks to war-induced inflation, a global tariff regime and a widespread fascination—public and private-- with debt. Another jump in energy costs (WTI back above $104) kept investors anticipating another 2026 Fed rate hike in December (73%). That reduced confidence in equities such that the US large-cap index ended the week gapping below 50-day support again and closed below its 20-day stop-loss as well. Next week's US elections have Wall Street on edge, with assorted whackos, not to mention the threat of socialist confiscatory totalitarianism around every corner.

ETF Breakdown: EDV-- A market value-weighted index of high-duration, zero-coupon 25-year US Treasury securities. **Countries:** US (100%). **Top Sectors:** Government (93%), Cash (4%), ETFs (2%), Energy minerals (1%).

US Equity Market:
#4 US SMALL-CAPs Test Resistance

US Small-Cap Stocks: IWM rose 1.3% this week, after gaining 2.0% last week. That left it bearish and ranked #4 globally and more attractive than cash. The index is up 1.0% for the quarter (13 weeks), and up 14.6% for the year (52 weeks). At $279.33, IWM is below its short-term (50-day) average and above its intermediate-term (200-day) average. Its momentum (PMO) is negative but improving, and its 14-day RSI of 49.5 means IWM is neither overbought nor oversold. As for currency effects, a pricier Dollar this week makes Dollar-denominated assets more attractive. Over time, a bullish Dollar improves returns to Dollar investors in US assets.

US small caps still face the same headwind they've faced all year—fear of "higher for longer" interest rates, thanks to war-induced inflation, a global tariff regime and a widespread fascination—public and private-- with debt. This week, another jump in energy costs (WTI back above $104) same week as a no-change Fed meeting kept investors anticipating a 2026 Fed rate hike (73%) six weeks from now. The US small-cap index, having dropped below major support (and its 38% Fibonacci retracement level) at its 200-day average two weeks ago, ending at a new six-month low. Last week it got an oversold bounce which continued this week, before reversing on Friday at 50-day resistance. IWM's average directional change is still strong but waning (ADX>29). Money flow has turned positive. PMO is negative but improving. Small-caps, for whom additional borrowing costs are an important consideration are disproportionately affected by higher interest rates.

ETF Breakdown: IWM-- A cap-weighted index fund. **Countries:** US (99%). **Top Sectors:** Finance (22%), Health Technology (12%), Technology Services (12%), Producer manufacturing (8%), Electronic Technology (7%), Industrial Services (4%), Energy Minerals (4%), Commercial services (4%), Consumer services (3%), Process industries (3%).

US Equity Market: Week's Top Sectors:
Oil Exploration, Software, Health Providers, Medical Devices, Staples

The table below ranks 27 primary US sector ETFs in order of relative momentum this week. Sectors ranked higher than cash are bullish (**buy** or **hold**), and those ranked below cash are bearish (**sell or avoid**). **This week's** US equity sector momentum picks up and positivity increases -- 63% of our sectors are buy or hold (L52%). **BUYS rose to 30%** (L26%) and **HOLDS rose to 33% (**L26%). **Avoids fell to 37%** (L48%). **Top buys this week:** Oil Exploration, Software, Health Providers, Medical Devices, Consumer Staples, Biotech. **Week's Worst:** Semi-conductors, Telecom, Media, Gold Miners, Bitcoin.

CI%	Description	ROC	TS	READ	RSI	PMO	+/-	Condition
100%	Semiconductors (SMH)	37%	33%	bearish	37.0	-1.53	negative	deteriorating
85%	Software (XSW)	40%	116%	very bullish	54.8	2.34	positive	improving
85%	US Technology (IYW)	31%	64%	bullish	34.4	-0.38	negative	deteriorating
77%	US Health Providers (IHF)	36%	108%	very bullish	61.2	1.87	positive	improving
51%	Biotechnology (IBB)	27%	108%	very bullish	62.8	1.36	positive	improving
44%	Oil/Gas Expl & Prod (XOP)	12%	110%	very bullish	62.3	2.62	positive	improving
41%	DJ Internet Index (FDN)	12%	54%	neutral	27.3	-0.89	negative	deteriorating
33%	US Pharmaceuticals (IHE)	20%	92%	very bullish	66.8	0.84	positive	improving
32%	**S&P 500 (SPY)**	**14%**	**70%**	**bullish**	**40.4**	**0.09**	**positive**	**deteriorating**
22%	KBW Insurance (IAK)	13%	98%	very bullish	63.3	1.16	positive	improving
19%	Capital Markets (KCE)	12%	50%	neutral	49.1	-1.02	negative	improving
18%	KB Banks (KBE)	13%	52%	neutral	54.4	-0.32	negative	improving
14%	Retail (XRT)	8%	74%	bullish	61.8	1.06	positive	improving
6%	Bitcoin (BLOK)	-1%	8%	very bearish	31.6	-3.88	negative	deteriorating
6%	Transports (IYT)	8%	34%	bearish	54.1	-0.37	negative	improving
1%	Consumer Staples (XLP)	5%	103%	very bullish	65.6	1.67	positive	improving
-2%	Select Materials (XLB)	6%	72%	bullish	71.4	0.72	positive	improving
-5%	REITs (VNQ)	2%	34%	bearish	59.2	-0.19	negative	improving
-5%	**CASH**	**-1%**	**78%**	**bullish**	**73.0**	**0.11**	**positive**	**improving**
-8%	Industrials (XLI)	1%	12%	very bearish	46.1	-0.88	negative	improving
-9%	US Oil Equip & Serv (IEZ)	1%	46%	neutral	57.1	-0.34	negative	improving
-10%	Telecommunications (FCOM)	-7%	6%	very bearish	23.0	-1.82	negative	deteriorating
-13%	Food & Beverage (PBJ)	-3%	55%	neutral	57.5	0.56	positive	improving
-20%	US Medical Devices (IHI)	-2%	83%	very bullish	57.6	1.31	positive	improving
-21%	Media Portfolio (XLC)	-11%	6%	very bearish	22.9	-2.03	negative	deteriorating
-27%	Home Construction (XHB)	-1%	21%	bearish	59.4	-0.23	negative	improving
-27%	Utilities (XLU)	-8%	34%	bearish	65.6	0.73	positive	improving
-38%	US Aerospace & Def (PPA)	-10%	15%	very bearish	52.5	-0.99	negative	improving
-47%	Gold Miners (GDX)	-10%	13%	very bearish	33.3	-2.81	negative	deteriorating

US Sector Top Performers: Last 2 weeks (10/30/26)

YTD	Description	THIS wk	LAST wk	2 wks	13wk	26wk	39wk	52wk	3Y
28.9%	Biotechnology (IBB)	4.8%	2.8%	**7.6%**	15.6%	28.2%	23.1%	38.9%	54.3%
26.9%	US Pharmaceuticals (IHE)	**5.0%**	1.4%	6.4%	4.6%	25.5%	**24.1%**	**47.2%**	**57.9%**
35.7%	US Oil Equip & Serv (IEZ)	2.7%	3.7%	6.4%	1.9%	-9.4%	10.8%	38.7%	49.4%
-1.9%	Home Construction (XHB)	2.6%	3.7%	6.3%	-7.1%	-6.2%	-7.3%	-2.9%	-12.9%
12.0%	Software (XSW)	-2.7%	**8.7%**	6.0%	**18.8%**	**38.5%**	17.5%	6.0%	26.8%
16.3%	Select Materials (XLB)	2.8%	0.8%	3.6%	3.1%	2.4%	6.9%	23.0%	15.8%
8.3%	KB Banks (KBE)	-0.3%	3.5%	3.3%	-4.5%	4.6%	5.5%	19.1%	26.1%
1.7%	Utilities (XLU)	2.0%	0.8%	2.9%	-4.2%	-4.7%	2.1%	-0.8%	12.7%
2.9%	Capital Markets (KCE)	0.8%	1.7%	2.5%	-3.2%	3.6%	-0.1%	7.2%	20.0%
6.2%	REITs (VNQ)	1.3%	1.0%	2.4%	-5.8%	0.3%	6.9%	10.1%	4.9%

INTERNATIONAL MARKETS:
#9 GOLD Sinks to New 52-week Low

Gold Bullion: GLD fell 3.0% this week, after losing 4.0% last week. That left it very bearish and ranked #9 globally and less attractive than cash. The index is down 16.0% for the quarter (13 weeks), and down 3.4% for the year (52 weeks). At $355.78, GLD is below its short-term (50-day) average and below its intermediate-term (200-day) average. Its momentum (PMO) is negative and deteriorating, and its 14-day RSI of 30.3 means GLD is neither overbought nor oversold. As for currency effects, a pricier Dollar this week makes foreign assets, commodities and gold less attractive. Over time, a bullish Dollar limits returns to Dollar investors in foreign equities, commodities and gold, but improves the region's trade competitiveness.

This week, a rising energy costs (WTI back above $104) kept gold bugs worrying about another 2026 Fed rate hike sending the metal to a new low. Long-term interest rates again retreated, and the Dollar steadied this week, fractionally higher. It wasn't much, but it was enough to GLD send gold fractionally lower on the week and still bearish. That bearishness is due to higher interest rates from war-induced inflation and a global US tariff regime; a US economy increasingly at full employment that promotes a bullish Dollar; and massive amounts of new public and private debt. As a result, the US has joined Europe, Japan and Britain in what has now become a rising rate world. That would appear to make gold's prospects dim unless the yield curve continues to flatten.

INTERNATIONAL MARKETS:
COMMODITIES Down Fractionally

Commodities: A very bullish CRB fell 1.4% this week after gaining 1.1% last week. That leaves commodity prices up 15.9% for the quarter (13 weeks), and up 48.0% for the year (52 weeks). At $33.61, the CRB is above its short-term (50-day) average and above its intermediate-term (200-day) average. Its momentum (PMO) is positive but deteriorating, and its 14-day RSI of 56.8 means the CRB is neither overbought nor oversold.
Crude Oil: Meanwhile, the broader oil complex (USO) fell 0.4% this week, following last week's gain of 4.8% and currently very bullish. That leaves US oil prices up 35.3% for the quarter (13 weeks), and up 135.1% for the year (52 weeks). At $168.83, USO is above its short-term (50-day) average and above its intermediate-term (200-day) average. Its momentum (PMO) is positive and improving, and its 14-day RSI of 67.0 means the CRB is neither overbought nor oversold.

Commodities gapped up last Friday and finished the week triggering a new buy-stop and 52-week high. It spent this (FOMC) week heading sideways before finishing fractionally lower. Oil edged slightly higher (WTI at $104) keeping investors stewing about a December 2026 Fed rate hike. DBC price remains near the 52-week high set 10/23. Long-term interest rates retreated again but the Dollar got bid fractionally higher this week. Commodities and oil, traded in Dollars, diverged— oil (with supply issues) went up while commodities (more demand oriented) slipped lower. Oil's moves are still primarily supply-risk/geopolitical rather than evidence of stronger global economic demand. For a third week, global supply of LNG (Liquified Nat Gas) soared on reports the US is adding supply out of Alaska by pipeline to Asia.

INTERNATIONAL EQUITIES:
#7 EUROPE Tests Resistance

European Large-Cap Stocks: IEV rose 1.4% this week, after losing 1.2% last week. That left it bearish and ranked #7 globally and less attractive than cash. The index is down 3.9% for the quarter (13 weeks), but up 13.6% for the year (52 weeks). At $71.73, IEV is below its short-term (50-day) average and above its intermediate-term (200-day) average. Its momentum (PMO) is negative but improving, and its 14-day RSI of 51.2 means IEV is neither overbought nor oversold. As for currency effects, a pricier Dollar this week makes foreign assets, commodities and gold less attractive. Over time, a bullish Dollar limits returns to Dollar investors in foreign equities, commodities and gold, but improves the region's trade competitiveness.

Europe broke through 200-day resistance and held it this week, but it fell shy of its 50-day. Price momentum, though negative has been improving since early October. At 2.25%-2.50% the new ECB deposit facility rate still enjoys an advantage of being well below the new US Fed overnight rate (3.75-4.00%). European inflation worries due to the sharp increase in energy prices out of the Middle East, however, foster fears of tighter EU monetary policy amid slower growth. US trade policy also remains a headwind, particularly for developed regions' manufactures vs (commodity-centric) emerging economies. NOTE: A weakening Euro puts dollar-based Europe (IEV -4) behind Europe's hedged version (HEDJ -1) per 6-month Price-Performance. Europe continues to underperform the US market (VTI +5) even after the US rate hike. Ireland (EIRL +5) is outperforming the US, but Switzerland (EWL +2) and Denmark (EDEN +1). Netherlands (EWN -2), Britain (EWU -2), Spain (EWP -4), Germany (EWG -4), Italy (EWI -5) and France (EWQ -10) are lagging.

ETF Breakdown: IEV-- A cap-weighted index fund. **Countries:** UK (24%), France (18%), Switzerland (16%), Germany (13%), Netherlands (7%), Denmark (7%), Energy Minerals (6%), Utilities (4%), Consumer durables (4%), Technology Services (5%), Process industries (3%).

INTERNATIONAL EQUITIES:
#2 JAPAN Gaps Lower

Japanese Stocks: EWJ fell 1.3% this week, after losing 0.8% last week. That left it neutral and ranked #2 globally and more attractive than cash. The index is down 0.4% for the quarter (13 weeks), but up 20.9% for the year (52 weeks). At $92.91, EWJ is below its short-term (50-day) average and above its intermediate-term (200-day) average. Its momentum (PMO) is negative and deteriorating, and its 14-day RSI of 34.4 means EWJ is neither overbought nor oversold. As for currency effects, a pricier Dollar this week makes foreign assets, commodities and gold less attractive. Over time, a bullish Dollar limits returns to Dollar investors in foreign equities, commodities and gold, but improves the region's trade competitiveness.

Japanese equities peaked October 6 and have broken down since, taking out 50-day support and triggering multiple stop-losses. Friday's gap down this week puts intermediate support at the 200-day to the test. EWJ last fell below that level in April 2025 when the US tariff program was announced. The breakdown is still only about 5% below the October 6 high and recent average directional strength in EWJ has been weak (ADX<16) denoting a rangebound index. EWJ, though bearish short-term is still technically bullish intermediate term, and the Yen has stabilized recently with US help. The 6-month return (+4.8%) is still greater than the US cash return (+1.8%), but PMO is now negative and deteriorating. Finally, hedged Japanese equities (DXJ) retested their 50-day this week, finishing below it. (DXJ triggered an intraday stop-loss on Friday but closed the session above it.) Strong global risk appetite, solid earnings, and US-backed Yen stability are supportive of Japanese equities, while rising yields and BOJ tightening expectations create countervailing pressure. Overall, the external backdrop remains favorable for Japan's exporters but less favorable for its domestic consumers. Note: EWJ (+5) is lagging its hedged version, DXJ (+9), but matching six-month US equity performance (VTI @ +5).

ETF Breakdown: EWJ-- A cap-weighted index fund. **Countries:** Japan (100%) **Top Sectors:** Finance (15%), Consumer durables (14%), Producer manufacturing (14%), Electronic Technology (12%), Health Technology (9%), Process industries (5%), Technology Services (5%), Consumer non-durables (5%), Communications (5%), Distribution services (4%).

INTERNATIONAL *EQUITIES:*
#3 ASIA-PACIFIC Retests 200-day & Fails, 2.0

Asia-Pacific ex-Japan: AAXJ fell 0.2% this week, after losing 1.6% last week. That left it bearish and ranked #3 globally and more attractive than cash. The index is down 3.0% for the quarter (13 weeks), and up 15.3% for the year (52 weeks). At $106.17, AAXJ is below its short-term (50-day) average and below its intermediate-term (200-day) average. Its momentum (PMO) is negative and deteriorating, and its 14-day RSI of 35.8 means AAXJ is neither overbought nor oversold. As for currency effects, a pricier Dollar this week makes foreign assets, commodities and gold less attractive. Over time, a bullish Dollar limits returns to Dollar investors in foreign equities, commodities and gold, but improves the region's trade competitiveness.

AAXJ made another run at 200-day overhead resistance for a second straight week and failed to hold again. A convergence of memory-chip industry fears, macro tightening concerns, and dynamic foreign fund outflows have triggered a global unwind in tech and semiconductors, affecting Taiwan and South Korea in particular. Average directional strength in Asian equities is picking up (ADX>31) on the latest downside run. India (a rate hike, a weak rupee and heavy foreign capital outflows) is still weakest, followed by China (weak banking and property sectors, slower growth and trade disagreements with the US.) Overall, foreign investors have redirected Asian capital toward Japan and Taiwan, where valuations and AI-related opportunities appear more attractive. Asia-Pacific equities ex-Japan (AAXJ -3) are less attractive than US stocks (VTI +5) in 6-month Price-Performance. Taiwan (EWT +12) is now the lone standout after South Korea (EWY -5) tanked to start October. Singapore (EWS +8) is holding its own, but Australia (EWA +2), Hong Kong (EWH -4), China (FXI -9), and India (IMVP -9), lag the US and are struggling due to energy dependence and US tariffs. As for international equity choices, emerging economies (commodity-centric) have better prospects during a commodity boom than slow-growth developed regions that are hiking rates (Europe and Japan).

ETF Breakdown: AAXJ-- A cap-weighted index fund. **Countries:** Hong Kong (36%), Taiwan (17%), India (16%), Korea (14%), Mainland China (4%), Singapore (4%), Thailand (2%), Indonesia (2%), Malaysia (2%), US (1%). **Top Sectors:** Finance (24%), Electronic Technology (20%), Technology Services (10%), Retail (7%), Consumer non-durables (5%), Consumer durables (4%), Producer manufacturing (4%), Transportation (4%), Energy (4%), Health Technology (3%).

INTERNATIONAL EQUITIES:
#5 LATIN AMERICA Suffers Brazil's Choice

Latin America 40: ILF fell 14.8% this week, after gaining 0.4% last week. That left it bearish and ranked #5 globally and more attractive than cash. The index is down 10.8% for the quarter (13 weeks), but up 16.0% for the year (52 weeks). At $32.13, ILF is below its short-term (50-day) average and below its intermediate-term (200-day) average. Its momentum (PMO) is negative and deteriorating, and its 14-day RSI of 28.0 means ILF is neither overbought nor oversold. As for currency effects, a pricier Dollar this week makes foreign assets, commodities and gold less attractive. Over time, a bullish Dollar limits returns to Dollar investors in foreign equities, commodities and gold, but improves the region's trade competitiveness.

Latin equities (ILF) gapped 9% higher on October 5 thanks to Brazil's 1st round presidential election in which the more fiscally conservative and market-friendly Senator Flávio Bolsonaro finished ahead of incumbent President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, 47% to 45%. This week, the run-off election was a different matter. DaSilva the socialist incumbent won and Brazil's stocks tanked, taking Latin America (-14%) with it. (Usually in Latin America, global monetary conditions and US trade policy are more important than domestic developments.) Momentum in Latin equities (ILF -15) is clearly under-outperforming its US cousin (VTI +5) in 6-month Price-Performance. Colombia (COLO +19) remains by far the strongest Latin equity market, outperforming the US and the rest of the region. Brazil (EWZ -22) is the worst. Canada (EWC -1), which is not in ILF, but a key player in the Americas is now negative, along with equities in Mexico (EWW -7), Argentina (ARGT -17), and Chile (ECH -20).

ETF Breakdown: ILF-- A cap-weighted index fund. **Countries:** Brazil (58%), Mexico (26%), US (8%), Chile (6%), Colombia (2%) **Top Sectors:** Finance (31%), Non-energy minerals (20%), Energy Minerals (14%), Consumer non-durables (10%), Retail (7%), Communications (5%), Technology Services (4%), Utilities (3%), Process Industries (2%), Producer manufacturing (2%).

INVESTMENT STRATEGIES:
PASSIVE DIVERSIFIED: BUY-AND-HOLD

This site compares passive and active investment strategies. The passive strategy is represented by two diversified ETFs, moderate growth (AOM) and aggressive growth (AOA). AOM is comprised of 60% income instruments and 40% equity assets. AOA is 80% equity and 20% income. AOA (mostly stocks) outperforms in bull market scenarios and AOM (mostly bonds) works better when equities are weak.

Passive Buy-and-Hold Strategies
TOP Buy and Hold Strategy: Aggressive Growth (AOA)

2026 has been better than average for US stocks though they lagged international equities and bonds until March. As the 4th quarter begins VTI (the Total US Stock Index) is nominally 17% higher over 12 months, above its 11% post-WWII (1945-2025) annualized average. Bonds, however, have been miserable. 7-10 year Treasuries are nominally down -3% in 12 months, considerably below their long-term annual average of +5%. The drag from bonds has dampened Diversified Buy & Hold strategies leaving relatively modest nominal returns year-to-date. Moderate portfolios are weaker than aggressive, but both AOM (+1%) and AOA (+3%) are still positive over the last 6 months.

THIS WEEK: 2nd MIXED-Risk week in a row.
US Stocks MIXED, Foreign Stocks MIXED, Bonds UP and Gold DOWN

Our overall technical strength reading is still bullish for (80-20) aggressive portfolios (AOA) but it has deteriorated to neutral for (40-60) moderate portfolios (AOM). In both instances RSI is below 50 and PMO is below 0 denoting short term bearishness. The differences are widening, as another Fed rate hike threatens both bonds and equities. *stop-loss

CI%	METRICS	ROC	TS	READ	RSI	PMO	+/-	Condition
31%	**(AOA) Aggressive Growth**	**8%**	46%	neutral	40.7	-0.25	negative	deteriorating
5%	(AOM) Moderate Growth & Inc	3%	37%	bearish	47.4	-0.10	negative	improving

YTD	PERFORMANCE	this wk	last wk	13wk	26wk	39wk	52wk	3Y
7.4%	(AOA) Aggressive Growth	-0.2%	-0.4%	**0.5%**	**3.0%**	**5.3%**	**9.5%**	**29.3%**
2.1%	(AOM) Moderate Growth & Inc	**0.2%**	**0.1%**	0.2%	1.1%	2.3%	4.7%	17.6%

PR/HI	PRICING	SL	PRICE	BS	52w HI	52w LO	50d avg	210d avg
96.2%	(AOA) Aggressive Growth	95.67	96.19	98.65	100.03	85.90	97.79	94.37
97.2%	**(AOM) Moderate Growth & Inc**	48.52	48.74	49.04	50.16	46.60	48.97	48.32

*Market Timing v. Diversified Buy & Hold: Performance**

Strategy	2026	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Index Moose	**19.5%**	58.7%	5.5%	3.6%	-16.3%	11.7%	13.2%	-6.5%	5.1%	9.0%
Aggressive G&I (AOA)	7.4%	19.3%	11.5%	15.6%	-17.9%	13.5%	10.7%	12.5%	-6.2%	8.0%
Moderate G&I (AOM)	2.1%	11.0%	4.9%	9.2%	-16.4%	5.3%	7.7%	19.5%	-9.9%	14.1%
Strategy										
S&P Benchmark	10.8%	14.5%	24.5%	24.3%	-19.5%					
US Strategy Moose	-1.1%	16.7%	26.1%	12.3%	-7.0%	22.2%	20.9%	23.6%	1.2%	28.5%

The Index Model crushed all competitors in 2025 and is excelling again in 2026. It has outperformed in three of the last ten years. US Strategy Moose is underperforming in 2026, worsened by an 8-day October correction. In total, one of our two momentum models has outperformed buy-and-hold in nine of the last ten years. For buy and hold investors: Aggressive (AOA) is outperforming the more moderate (AOM) diversifications, but AOM has come back the last two weeks.

This performance data may not reflect total return. Dividends and interest were not included until recently, and the numbers may understate true model, ETF, and benchmark performance by 2-3% for years before 2025. The table above covers the last decade, the period since the models went from weekly to daily and since stop-losses were incorporated. It illustrates several points: (1) Success of any one strategy can be highly variable year-to-year. Just because it worked last year doesn't mean it will next year. (2) Buy-and-hold is preferable in years with few lasting or deep corrections, i.e., trendless volatility. (3) When stocks are trending strong, in either direction, timing is safer. (4) Market timing is most profitable when there is one predominant asset choice, or in extended bear market scenarios. When stocks turn bearish buy-and-hold can be a huge loser. (5) To avoid substantial losses, buy-and-hold investors should have a separate exit plan, whereas such plans are implicit in index targeting (a loss-minimization strategy).

TIMING STRATEGIES:
THE US EQUITY STRATEGY (USES) MODEL

USE Strategy: HOLD Cash (MMF) via Momentum (MTUM) stop-loss 10/15/2026

The USES Model is an equity-only construct for determining the optimum equity strategy for the US stock portion of one's portfolio. It monitors and ranks 9 US equity strategies (as represented by the most popular smart-beta ETFs based on volume and capitalization) using our momentum methodology. The 9 US equity strategies included US momentum, US growth, US value, US low volatility, US high dividend, US fundamentals, US equal weight, US Large-cap benchmark, and US Small-caps.

THIS WEEK: 2nd MIXED-Risk week in a row.
US Stocks MIXED, Foreign Stocks MIXED, Bonds UP and Gold DOWN

The model has held Cash since 10/15/2026 waiting for an opportunity to renter US equities. SPY is down since the switch date, however, which given the positive correlation between the ETFs in this model and their benchmark does not bode well. Cash ahead of the US elections next Tuesday is a safe position.

BEST ALTERNATIVES: US Value (IUSV) and S&P Equal Weight (RSP) both have positive CI, TS>60 (bullish+), RSI >50, and a positive PMO that is improving. Of the two, IUSV is better, but those numbers could change should the S&P, which is the last bastion of bullishness triggers a more convincing stop-loss next week.

Most Recent STOP: *20-d Stop-loss, **20-d Buy-stop

	CI%	METRICS	ROC	TS	READ	RSI	PMO	+/-	Condition
1	**100%**	**US Momentum (MTUM)**	**18%**	32%	bearish	35	-1.37	negative	deteriorating
2	80%	US Growth (IUSG)	15%	50%	neutral	35	-0.48	negative	deteriorating
3	62%	US Large-caps (SPY)	14%	64%	bullish	40	0.05	positive	deteriorating
4	56%	US Fundamentals (QUAL)	13%	71%	bullish	44	0.24	positive	deteriorating
5	40%	US Value (IUSV)	12%	**104%**	**very bullish**	63	0.77	**positive**	**improving**
6	37%	S&P Equal Weight (RSP)	11%	84%	very bullish	60	0.52	positive	improving
7	35%	US Small-Caps (IWM)	12%	31%	bearish	49	-0.84	negative	improving
8	12%	Cash (SGOV)	2%	101%	very bullish	100	0.15	positive	improving
9	11%	US High Dividend (SPYD)	8%	72%	bullish	66	0.57	positive	improving
10	-15%	US Low Volatility (SPLV)	2%	84%	very bullish	69	**0.91**	**positive**	**improving**

NOTE: All of the strategies in this model are derivative of and highly correlated to the S&P. When SPY's TS and/or CI is bearish, when it hits a stop-loss, is overbought, or gives some other sell signal, adopting any sub-strategy that is highly correlated to it is not recommended. To switch-in both SPY and the strategy ETF must have TS>50% and CI>SGOV or better, have a positive, improving PMO, not be overbought, and be working off a buy-stop.

THIS WEEK: 2nd MIXED-Risk week in a row.
US Stocks MIXED, Foreign Stocks MIXED, Bonds UP and Gold DOWN

Performance-wise, Equal Weight holds year-to-date honors this week. High Dividend (SPYD) and US Value (IUSV) show the most promise over 13, 26, 39 and 52 weeks.

	YTD	PERFORMANCE	This Wk	Last Wk	13wk	26wk	39wk	52wk	3Y
1	**14%**	**S&P Equal Weight (RSP)**	0.8%	1.1%	1.8%	8.9%	11.1%	17.8%	26.0%
2	13%	US Momentum (MTUM)	-1.8%	-1.3%	-5.8%	1.5%	9.6%	10.9%	**39.6%**
3	13%	US Small-Caps (IWM)	1.3%	2.0%	-4.4%	1.5%	6.2%	14.3%	29.8%
4	13%	US High Dividend (SPYD)	1.0%	**2.9%**	-0.6%	9.0%	**12.4%**	**20.6%**	17.5%
5	13%	US Value (IUSV)	0.6%	1.1%	**3.2%**	**9.1%**	11.6%	16.4%	25.4%
6	12%	US Fundamentals (QUAL)	-0.1%	-0.9%	2.6%	7.7%	9.6%	13.2%	26.2%
7	11%	US Large-caps (SPY)	-0.6%	-0.4%	2.3%	6.1%	9.2%	10.9%	33.1%
8	9%	US Growth (IUSG)	-1.3%	-1.7%	1.4%	3.6%	7.5%	7.3%	39.0%
9	7%	US Low Volatility (SPLV)	**1.5%**	1.3%	-0.5%	4.8%	6.2%	11.1%	10.4%
10	0%	Cash (SGOV)	0.1%	0.1%	1.0%	1.9%	2.8%	3.8%	8.4%

TIMING STRATEGIES:
THE GLOBAL INDEX MODEL

TOP Index Model Move: HOLD US Large-caps (SPY) since 10/05/2026.

THIS WEEK: 2nd MIXED-Risk week in a row.
US Stocks MIXED, Foreign Stocks MIXED, Bonds UP and Gold DOWN

The best Global asset we monitor is US Large-caps (SPY). Positives: CI% is max. Technical strength is max and bullish (>60), and PMO is positive (>0). Negatives: PMO is weak and deteriorating. RSI is bearish (<50). SPY also touched a 20-day low (stop-loss) intraday this week for a second straight Friday, this time closing the week below it.

Best Alternative: SGOV (cash) is the only other ETF in this model with a positive CI%, a TS+ greater than 50%, and a positive PMO.

	CI%	FUND	TS+	READ	RSI	PMO	+/-	condition
1	**100%**	**US Large-caps (SPY)**	**70%**	**bullish**	**40.4**	**0.09**	**positive**	deteriorating
2	56%	US Small-caps (IWM)	31%	bearish	49.5	-0.84	negative	improving
3	54%	Emerging Markets (EEM)	21%	bearish	33.6	-1.91	negative	deteriorating
4	30%	Developed Markets (EFA)	43%	neutral	46.6	-0.54	negative	improving
5	18%	Short US Income (SGOV)	93%	very bullish	81.8	0.14	positive	deteriorating
6	-103%	Very Long US Bonds (EDV)	45%	neutral	**61.6**	**0.50**	**positive**	**improving**
7	-174%	Gold Bullion (GLD)	6%	very bearish	30.3	-1.79	negative	deteriorating

Performance-wise, SPY leads over the 13, 26, and 39 weeks with 26w being a key metric in determining model confidence. EEM continues to hold year-to-date and 52-week honors.

	YTD	FUND	10/30/26	10/23/26	13wk	26wk	39wk	52wk
1	13.5%	US Small-caps (IWM)	**1.3%**	2.0%	1.0%	-0.5%	8.3%	**14.6%**
2	11.6%	Emerging Markets (EEM)	-1.6%	-1.3%	-4.0%	-7.8%	3.9%	12.7%
3	10.8%	US Large-caps (SPY)	-0.6%	-0.4%	**5.7%**	**3.8%**	**10.1%**	12.0%
4	7.6%	Developed Markets (EFA)	0.7%	-0.9%	2.7%	2.1%	3.6%	13.3%
5	0.3%	Short US Income (SGOV)	0.1%	0.1%	1.9%	1.8%	2.8%	3.7%
6	-8.8%	Very Long US Bonds (EDV)	0.4%	**2.5%**	-3.5%	-4.2%	-5.0%	-9.7%
7	-10.2%	Gold Bullion (GLD)	-3.0%	-4.0%	-16.0%	-17.6%	-20.0%	-3.4%

Strategy	2026	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Index Moose	**19.5%**	58.7%	5.5%	3.6%	-16.3%	11.7%	13.2%	-6.5%	5.1%	9.0%
Aggressive G&I (AOA)	7.4%	19.3%	11.5%	15.6%	-17.9%	13.5%	10.7%	12.5%	-6.2%	8.0%
Moderate G&I (AOM)	2.1%	11.0%	4.9%	9.2%	-16.4%	5.3%	7.7%	19.5%	-9.9%	14.1%

TIMING STRATEGIES:
THE THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN (TSP) MODEL

Decision Moose Framework & TSP Investors--
The TSP Model uses the same momentum framework as the Global Index Model applying it to the specific Funds offered under the Thrift Savings Plan to Federal employees and military personnel. The two timing models are similar but not identical. TSP does not include a gold fund and it has one international equity fund instead of two. In addition the TSP small-cap fund (S) is more appropriately a small-midcap or residual fund (Total US equities minus the S&P500) and not comparable to the Global Index fund's Russell 2000 small-cap fund (IWM). These operational differences may lead to timing differences between the two.

What Is the Thrift Savings Plan?
The Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) is the retirement savings programme for US federal civilian employees and uniformed services members. It offers five core index funds — C, S, I, F, and G — plus Lifecycle (L) funds. With over $800 billion in assets, it is one of the largest defined-contribution plans in the world. TSP participants can move between funds via interfund transfers, making it well-suited to a momentum-based rotation strategy. Note: TSP intra-fund switch restrictions (2 per calendar month) exist but rarely come into play. TSP is also priced end-of-day. Switches ordered before noon happen at that day's closing price. Switches made after noon are priced at the following day's close.

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CURRENT TSP Model Signal: HOLD C Fund (US Large-caps)
(The TSP Model rotated to US Large-caps (C Fund) from Cash (Fund G) effective 9/23/2026, via CI and Buy-stop.)

US LARGE CAPS (C) are the best TSP asset we monitor. Positives: CI% is max. Technical strength is max and bullish (>60), and PMO is positive (>0). Technical strength and PMO are tops in the model. Fed rate hikes strengthen the Dollar and make dollar-denominated assets like US Large-caps (Fund C) more attractive than foreign equities (Fund I) and Small-caps (Fund S. Negatives: PMO is weak and deteriorating. RSI is bearish (<50). SPY also touched a 20-day low (stop-loss) intraday on Friday but closed above it negating the stop for now.

BEST ALTERNATIVE: Cash (G) is the only other timing choice in the model for which a positive PMO is improving. **OVERALL**: aggressive Lifetime Portfolios are outperforming TSP timing and the more moderate B&H portfolios.

	CI%	Fund	ROC	TS+	READ	RSI	PMO	+/-	condition
1	**100%**	**US Large-caps (C)**	**14%**	**70%**	**bullish**	40.7	**0.11**	**positive**	deteriorating
2	75%	Lifetime 2060	11%	50%	bullish	40.5	-0.32	negative	deteriorating
3	63%	US Small-caps (S)	11%	38%	bearish	45.7	-0.68	negative	improving
4	60%	Lifetime 2050	9%	50%	neutral	41.2	-0.24	negative	deteriorating
5	53%	Lifetime 2040	8%	53%	neutral	41.5	-0.18	negative	deteriorating
6	44%	International Fund (I)	**8%**	35%	bearish	38.2	-0.84	negative	deteriorating
7	42%	Lifetime 2030	6%	59%	neutral	42.5	-0.08	negative	deteriorating
8	23%	Long-term Inc (L)	3%	68%	bullish	45.6	0.05	positive	deteriorating
9	5%	Short-term Inc (G)	1%	101%	very bullish	100.0	0.21	positive	improving
10	-38%	Fixed Income (F)	-3%	24%	bearish	66.5	0.08	positive	improving

TSP Performance Progression

I Fund remains best YTD and over 52 weeks and 3 years. but C Fund has overtaken it of late and is best over 26 and 39 weeks, 26 being a key metric in determining current model confidence (CI).

	Fund	THIS	LAST	13wk	26wk	39wk	52wk	YTD	3Y
1	International Fund (I)	-0.1%	-1.0%	-1.3%	1.5%	9.0%	**17.7%**	**13.1%**	**43.3%**
2	Lifetime 2060	-0.3%	-0.4%	-0.2%	4.5%	9.7%	15.2%	12.2%	35.9%
3	US Large-caps (C)	-0.6%	-0.5%	1.2%	**7.2%**	**11.2%**	14.5%	11.8%	33.1%
4	US Small-caps (S)	0.5%	**1.3%**	-3.5%	1.7%	5.1%	11.7%	11.2%	27.0%
5	Lifetime 2050	-0.2%	-0.3%	0.0%	4.0%	8.4%	13.1%	10.5%	31.0%
6	Lifetime 2040	-0.1%	-0.2%	0.1%	3.8%	7.9%	12.1%	9.7%	28.3%
7	Lifetime 2030	0.0%	-0.1%	0.5%	3.6%	6.9%	10.5%	8.4%	24.7%
8	Long-term Inc (L)	0.0%	0.0%	0.9%	3.0%	5.2%	7.4%	6.1%	16.4%
9	Short-term Inc (G)	0.1%	0.1%	**1.4%**	2.6%	3.6%	4.7%	3.9%	9.3%
10	Fixed Income (F)	**0.6%**	0.5%	-0.2%	-1.2%	-0.4%	-0.7%	-0.3%	6.1%

TSP Moose v. TSP Lifetime Funds: Long-Term Performance

Strategy	2026 YTD	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
L2060	12.2%	22.6%	16.3%	23.3%	-15.9%	19.9%	new	--	--	--
L2050	10.5%	19.7%	14.0%	20.0%	-13.4%	16.3%	14.8%	23.3%	-6.0%	18.8%
L2040	9.7%	17.8%	12.9%	18.1%	-11.4%	14.5%	13.2%	20.7%	-4.9%	16.8%
L2030	8.4%	15.6%	11.5%	16.6%	-9.0%	12.4%	11.3%	17.6%	-3.6%	14.5%
TSP Moose	6.4%	15.3%	11.8%	16.5%	-3.4%	13.3%	21.8%	14.9%	6.5%	21.0%

OBSERVATION: The most aggressive Lifetime Funds have been the best performers since Covid (2020) thanks to the trillions in Federal deficit spending under Trump and Biden. An added bonus: Lifetime funds are a lot less work than timing the markets. The drawback is that buying and holding a Lifetime fund can be a disaster in a cyclical bear market (2022). The risk-reward is better with timing. Fortunately (or unfortunately as one's politics may dictate) the likelihood of a cyclical bear market occurring diminishes as government becomes an ever-larger portion of the US economy and as Fed market manipulation becomes more prevalent. The likelihood of a permanent bear market, however, becomes greater and when that reckoning does eventually come, however, it will be far worse, shaking our national institutions as well as the economy.

MOOSPEAK-- 11/01/2026

Dear Moose Friends—

As of Sunday morning (11/01/26) the newsletter is ready for publication, but the website is not. You can still get the most complete information by accessing the PDF version of the newsletter using the Moosecalls button on the home page.

The equity market is approaching next week's US mid-term elections with an air of trepidation. After the socialist incumbent won four more years in Brazil, Brazilian equities dropped over 25% in five days. Granted, the US doesn't have the same level of "bananfication" that Brazil offers, but we do have socialists now. So anything could happen.

Putting irrational fears aside, the period after mid-term elections is usually the strongest period for stocks in the four-year Presidential cycle— no matter who wins. (A little extra certainty goes a long way, even if we're certain we're on our way to hell in a handbasket.)

So take heart. Be thankful and enjoy the fact that we have the right and privilege to express our opinions every couple of years—even if it does occasionally show the world just how stupid we can be. Eventually, through trial and error, we get it right. --Bill Dirlam